

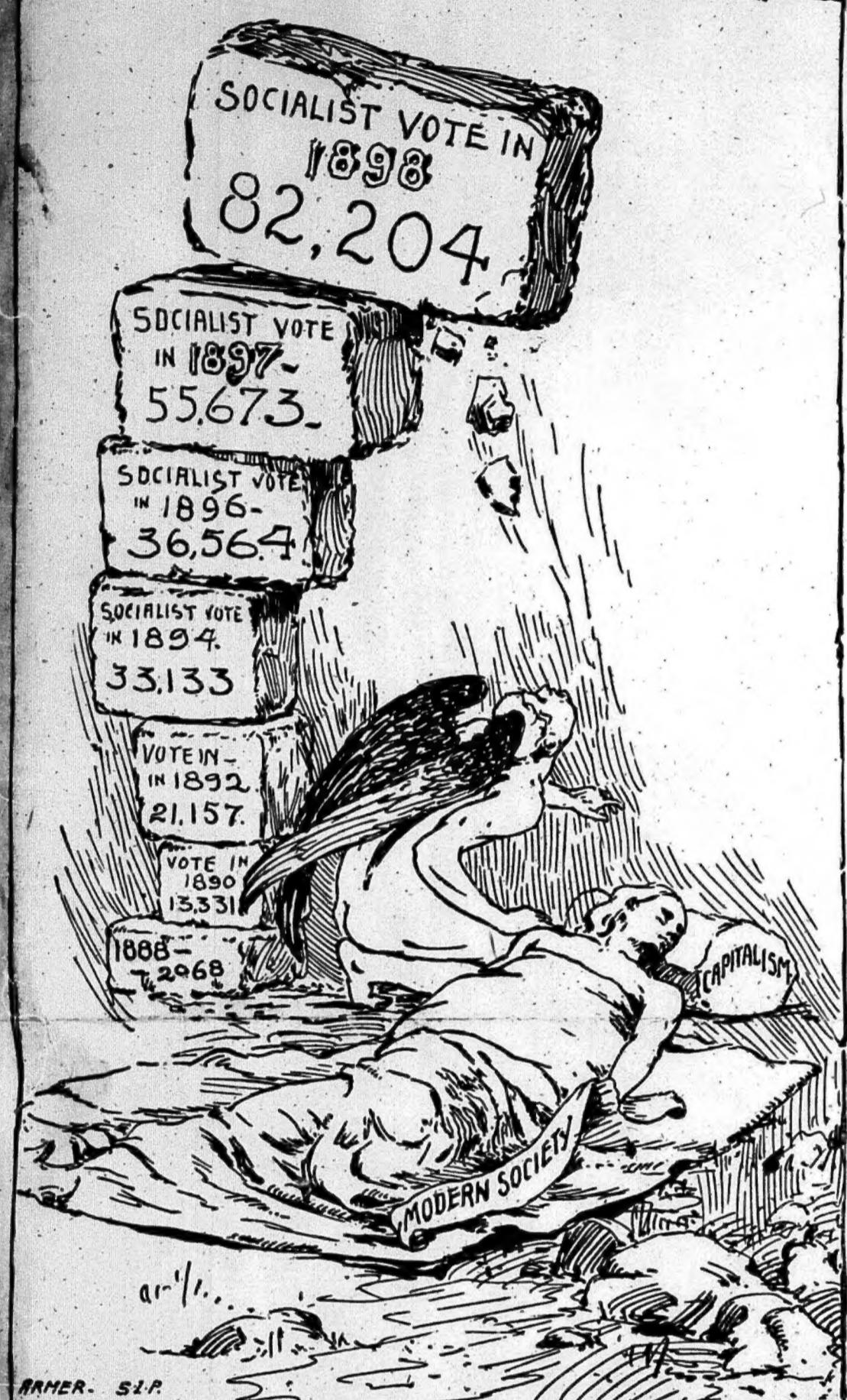
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# The People.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 46.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 12, 1899.

PRICE 2 CENTS.



**Wake up! Something is going to drop!**

## The Socialist Vow.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by Stanislaus Cullen, Spokane, Wash.]

We have taken a vow, we repeat it now!  
While the red blood flows in our veins,  
We will work and fight both day and night  
Until the wage slave breaks his chains.  
By our comrades slain at the Cour d'Alene—  
By the Buffalo Bill's gun—  
By the men shot dead at the Scot's Home-  
stead—  
By the murdered three and a score  
Who were shot in the back by the capitalist  
pack.  
Because they knew not that we  
As a class must not talk, must not think,  
must not write,  
On the roads, in this "Land of the Free."

We'll observe no truce; we'll face all abuse,  
We will bring our Hammer down  
On the capitalist plan and on every man,  
Be he Fakir, or Hobber, or Clown,  
Who tries to prevent our recorded intents;  
To wed our class in IRISH,  
That will vote, work, and fight—if need be—  
for the right.  
To enjoy what its labor has won.  
"Proletarians unite," with your votes win  
the fight.  
"You have nothing to lose but your chains."  
Take the Socialist vow, smash the robber  
now.  
And the prize—"You've the world to gain."

## THE VOTE OF 1898.

## IMPOTENT RAGE.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 4.—Stuart Read, National Organiser of the International Association of Machinists, came to grief on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 29, at the S. L. P. headquarters, when he attempted to pit the Labor Fakirs and their old style of Pure and Simple Labor Union methods against the progressive S. T. & L. A. Point after point was scored against him; he was routed in every argument which he advanced and with the courage of despair he at last desisted from his efforts, and in a loud voice proclaimed his "victory over all he surveyed," including those narrow minded and intolerant and abusive Socialists and all strangers present, who were so persistently color-blind that they thought the Socialists had amply demonstrated that the Pure and Simple had reached the end of their rope.

Again, later he showed that he possessed the usual 2x4 style of mentality and manhood of the ordinary labor fakir by trampling under foot the red button of the S. L. P. of which he had possessed himself in some unexplainable way. It is to be hoped that his idiotic action against an inoffensive emblem had the desired result of allaying his feeling of rage.

## IRISH SOCIALISTS' START.

DUBLIN, Ireland, Jan. 18.—The Ward upon which we bestowed our attention is known as the North Dock Ward. In this Ward the sitting members under the old régime were: Alderman McCabe, Timothy Harrington, M. P., D. Bergin (Publican), Holohan (Shipping Agent), all supporters of what is known here as the Independent party (Parnellites).

When we had entered the field with Comrade Steward as our candidate, there was another candidate named Fleming put forward by an organization styling itself the "Labor Electoral Association" (non-political!). It was from the latter that we encountered the greatest amount of opposition (all underhand, for they were afraid to meet us in the open). Fleming had the popular prejudice on his side. He came forward as "a workman," and had the support of the Trades' Council here. This militated severely against us. However, notwithstanding all obstacles, there was a phenomenal poll in favor of Stewart which promises well for the cause of Socialism in Ireland. Stewart received 448 votes out of the 1,368 votes polled, one voter out of every three favored Stewart.

W. J. BRADSHAW.

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Alabama     | 344    |
| California  | 7,780  |
| Colorado    | 1,796  |
| Connecticut | 2,866  |
| Illinois    | 4,527  |
| Mass.       | 1,795  |
| Miss.       | 1,081  |
| Missouri    | 646    |
| Mass.       | 334    |
| Mass.       | 10,043 |
| Mass.       | 1,101  |
| Mass.       | 1,687  |
| Mass.       | 1,043  |
| Mass.       | 248    |
| Mass.       | 5,453  |
| Mass.       | 407    |
| Mass.       | 28,860 |
| Mass.       | 5,793  |
| Mass.       | 4,318  |
| Mass.       | 2,579  |
| Mass.       | 562    |
| Mass.       | 528    |
| Mass.       | 1,323  |
| Mass.       | 1,477  |
| Totals      | 82,204 |

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

## CROWS OF A NEST.

### Wretched Condition of Mill-Hands in Birmingham, Ala.

The New Mills, Barely Established, In that "Silver" State, have an Old Style Condition of Destitute, "Gold Standard"—Exploited and Subject Wage Slaves—Oppression, Cut-Downs, Intimidation, Starvation, Just as in any other Place that Capitalism, Whether of the Gold or Silver Variety, Blasts.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 1.—It is scarcely a year ago when the cotton mill of this place—The Avondale Mercantile Company—was started with loud praises all over the State. The mill and "cottages" are still crisp new, and yet the condition of the people, outrivalling Massachusetts mill towns, has already become so shocking that the master was forced into publicity by a report of which the following are the leading passages:

A pale, hollow-eyed woman, emaciated from hunger and disease, lying on a filthy bed, slowly dying from want of medical aid, her condition so bad that it is not very pleasant for the well dressed men and women at breakfast in a luxurious Birmingham home.

Nearly every day the people of Birmingham read of the deplorable conditions existing among the working classes in great cities. But few are aware that here under their noses may be found these unfortunate creatures, their gaunt faces peering from squalid surroundings and crying out for the bread put here for every living being.

In house No. 74, situated in the colony of cotton mill operatives at Avondale is Mrs. Pencock. She has been ill for two weeks. Pale, emaciated, half starved, she was in need of proper food and medical attention.

"Oh," she wailed, "I had rather die than suffer this hell on earth."

Her daughter supports the family of three on 60 cents per day, the amount of her wages in the cotton mill nearby. One can imagine how much of the needful remedies and supplies can be purchased with this little over \$2 per week. Bosses house rent and fuel must come out of this.

This is only one case of several to be found among the cotton mill operatives. Low wages and bad sanitary regulations coupled with the cold weather have brought about a distressing state of affairs.

#### HAD RATHER DIE.

"I'll tell you," said one poor woman, an employee of the mills, "we don't live—we merely exist," and after listening to a recital of her hardships and glancing around the meagerly furnished room, the inward meaning of this assertion could be readily appreciated.

The furniture of the room consisted of a cheap pine table, a broken down chair and a bed. On the bed was a mattress, heavily packed with wild corn shuckings, and covered with a badly torn sheet, and a quilt which had seen long service. One picture adorned the room, a likeness of her husband, a fine looking fellow apparently on the sunny side of thirty.

"That was taken years ago," she said, referring to it, "before my husband died, and I went to work in a cotton factory for 60 cents a day."

She herself was sturdy—tall and thin, greatly emaciated from the effects of over-work and insufficient food, she retained but little of the beauty that it appeared had formerly been hers.

Dressed in a thin, soiled calico dress, her lips quivering with suppressed emotion, as she related her pitiful experience, she was indeed a fit object for pity.

"We work steadily from 6:15 in the morning until 6:30 at night," she continued after a moment's hesitation. "And we are not paid to be on our feet so long all the time. I make 60 cents a day. My little girl, who also works at the factory, makes \$1 per week when she works steadily. We have only thirty minutes for dinner and must be back to the factory on time to the minute. We occupy half of this house, two rooms, for which we pay 75 cents a week. This means the company takes one of our wages, and the company makes us buy its own coal, and the price we pay for it is not too low, either. Sometimes we get a fairly good quality of coal, but oftener it is nothing more than coal dust."

In the next house resides Mrs. Peacock. Lying on a cheap bed and suffering greatly she had but little to say, her daughter telling the pitiful story.

#### ILL FOR THREE WEEKS.

"Yes," said she, "my mother has been in that condition for three weeks. We don't know what to do or how to make ends meet day and that is very little when all are well, and is not near enough with one sick. We need a physician badly, but haven't the money to pay one, and the company won't do anything for us. My mother is almost dying, partially through lack of medicine, but mainly from want of proper food. We have a roof over our heads, but not enough for her, much less those luxuries which people in her condition should have. The company have been notified of her condition—in fact have seen it, as one of them was here a day or two ago—but have taken no steps to relieve her suffering."

#### CRYING FROM HUNGER.

In another house a child was crying from actual hunger. It was given an apple, which was voraciously devoured. A second one being given it, was as greedily partaken of as its predecessor.

The other two working children were attired in pants made of a croaker sack.

"The company don't want it known what starvation wages are being paid its employees," said a pitiful looking man, "if I am known to tell about it I will be fired before I will have time to realize what has happened."

"I owe a grocery bill of \$10.00," said the head man, "and I am in debt to the company. I won't sell me anything else on credit until I pay that, which I am unable to do, I don't know how in the world I'm going to hold out much longer."

#### TERROBIZING EMPLOYEES INTO DEPENDENCE.

"When I first came here and went to work for the company I ran a little store of my own and had quite a nice little trade from the cotton factory employees. One of the officers came to me and begged me to close up the store, saying that the company Mercantile Co. was enough that their goods cheap enough, etc. Afraid of losing my job if I didn't do as he said, I did so. Since Christmas my daughter has been making one-third less than she did before. The Lord knows the wages were low enough before the cut."

These alleged "gold standard conditions" are found in this State that went for "free silver," showing that the silver exploiter of labor need not be ashamed of his gold opponent: they are both crows of one nest.

S. Berlin will lecture on "Morality" next Tuesday evening at 65 Columbia street (12th A. D.), this city.

James Allman lectures on the 10th instant on "Religious and Sentimental Socialism" at 98 Second avenue (16th A. D.), this city.



[From Minneapolis, Minn., "Tocsin." February 4.]

On Sunday, Jan. 22, a meeting was held at the Boston Block, called by Organizers Swift and Field, of the A. F. of L., for the purpose of starting a Machinists' Union in Minneapolis. For several years there has been no organization of the trade here, and may machinists think the time ripe for starting a new union. The meeting came to order, listened to addresses on the advantages of organization, discussed the matter, and adjourned after calling a second meeting at the same place for the following Sunday.

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CONCORDIA, Kans., Feb. 6—I am aware that a great many people "down East" think that we Kansans are an old set and full of frivolous notions. They also assume that our State cannot be ripe for Socialism, assuming that, what we term the middle class, are in the majority. The capitalist papers would have them think that we are rolling in wealth, especially farmers.

I will say that Kansas has been blessed by nature with a good soil that produces abundant crops, also with rich mines and a splendid healthful climate, but she has been cursed with capitalism as bad as any other State. Our people are a grand people and love liberty, but they are untutored, hence in their effort to throw off the chains that capitalism has thrown around them they have struck blindly in many cases. But this must be said to their everlasting credit,—THEY STRUCK, showing that the spirit of old Patrick Henry is not dead.

It is true that they did not know how to meet the emergency. Some 20 years ago, when they began to feel the pangs, they organized the grange and started grange stores. These failed.

Next was the Farmers' Alliance, which was purely a farmers' move. This move taught the farmers some truths but it, of course, failed to enlist the wage workers, hence caused a feeling that drove these two elements apart.

Up to the time of the Farmers' Alliance, the farmers hoped sometime to become employers of labor and exploit it as well as the town capitalists. But since then they have lost their farms by the thousands; only here and there will one find a farmer who employs as much as one "hired hand"; thousands have moved to the towns.

The next was the "People's party" which was also a farmers' move.

Of course, all these moves had to fail one after the other, notwithstanding many a workingman joined them. It is just as Marx puts it in "The Eighteenth Brumaire":

"Bourgeois revolutions, like those of the eighteenth century, rush onward from success to success, their stage effects outbid one another, men and things seem to be set in flaming brilliants, ecstasy is the prevailing spirit; but they are short-lived, they reach their climax speedily, then society relapses into a long fit of nervous reaction before it learns how to appropriate the fruits of its period of feverish excitement. Proletarian revolutions, on the contrary, such as those of the nineteenth century, criticize themselves constantly; constantly interrupt themselves in their own course; come back to what seems to have been accomplished, in order to start over anew; score with cruel thoroughness the half-measures, weaknesses and meannesses of their first attempts; seem to throw down their adversary only in order to enable him to draw fresh strength from the earth, and again to rise up against them in more gigantic stature; constantly recoil in fear before the undefined monster magnitude of their own objects—until finally that situation is created which renders all retreat impossible, and the conditions themselves cry out:

"Hic Rhodus, hic salta!"

"Here is the rose, now dance!"

Thus, every wrong move having broken down, and the economic development going on building up the class of the proletariat, we are now building up correctly. Nevertheless, at the present time we have a peculiar state of affairs.

The alliance between the Democrats, Silver Republicans, and People's party brought out a big crop of politicians—and I will say that they are fully aroused to their own interests. But with all the shrewdness of these worthies, they are at sea to know how to again get back to the "pie counter."

At the last election our State failed to poll a full vote—there were about 60,000 "stay-at-homes." Socialist sentiment has grown so strong among the wage workers and renting or tenant farmers, that the "reform" politician High Priests must in some way catch this vote or go hungry. They have given up all hope of using the S. L. P. as a cat's-paw for any faction of capitalism. However, they did not fail to try to hoodwink us in many ways.

When, however, they found that they could not handle us, then the word was sent out that we are too "narrow," that the army had within the past year secured employment for 10,000 people."

TUESDAY, Jan. 23.—"During the past week Harrisburg was swarming with commercial agents brought here by the machine professional jury fixers, councilmanic lobbyists and ward leaders from the large cities are here in herds. Cheap detectives have had their thugs upon the scene. Democrats once with influence in their party, seem to have been completely overthrown; in order to start over anew; score with cruel thoroughness the half-measures, weaknesses and meannesses of their first attempts; seem to throw down their adversary only in order to enable him to draw fresh strength from the earth, and again to rise up against them in more gigantic stature; constantly recoil in fear before the undefined monster magnitude of their own objects—until finally that situation is created which renders all retreat impossible, and the conditions themselves cry out:

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C. LIPSCOMB.

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## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| In 1885 (Presidential) | 2.065  |
| In 1890                | 13.331 |
| In 1892 (Presidential) | 21.157 |
| In 1894                | 33.133 |
| In 1895 (Presidential) | 36.564 |
| In 1898                | 82.204 |

There is a saying of the ancient sages:

No noble human thought,  
However buried in the dust of ages,  
Can ever come to naught.With kindred faith, that knows no base de-  
jection,

Beyond the sages' scope

I see, afar, the final resurrection

Of every glorious hope.

I see, as parcel of a new creation,

The beatific hour

When every bud of lofty aspiration

Shall blossom into flower.

SAXE.

On Wednesday, the 8th instant, the Socialist organization of New York City lost one of its oldest members by the death of JOHN SCHAEFER. Schaefer was an old landmark, and for over 20 years was connected as a reporter with the "New Yorker Volkszeitung," of which he was a founder. His death, though sudden, reached him at the advanced age of 67 years, 31 of which he spent in this country as a quiet but persistent worker for the cause of Socialism. Known and loved by all, his demise has been felt as a personal loss by our whole membership.

## THE VOTE OF '98.

With this issue the final announcement is made of the Socialist Labor party vote in the country, and the increase is registered at the head of this column. The difficulty to hear from New Hampshire caused the unusual delay. An examination of the figures gives just grounds for joy.

The party has grown and spread; despite all the election frauds practised against it, its roots prove to have sunk deeper since last year, and its area to have extended; despite the storm of obloquy raised against it in heavier volumes than ever before by the corrupt interests that it threatens, its standing in the political household of the country has been masterfully reasserted; despite false parties, started by wounded vanities and impure motives, to hamper and destroy it, it raises its head more proudly now than ever, conscious of the ascendancy that is due to its soundness and its character.

But it is not the figures only that are cause for joy. The composition of the vote should not be lost sight of. No chemical testing-papers are applicable to the case; nevertheless, obvious facts justify the conclusion that last election's grand total consists of the best elements yet gathered under the Socialist banner. During the last three years, especially since 1896, a system of what may be called "automatic purification" has been in process. Elements, that affiliated with the party out of old habits of thought or for ideologic reasons, have been gradually carded off by the carding-comb of the material interests that the economic development and its political expressions subjected them to: small middle class interests, that once joined us at the polls, have, since the fierce campaign of 1896, grown alarmed for their little deposits and joined the Republicans; while, on the other hand, the "beer vote" unquestionably drew to itself its kindred spirits. All of these, together with such freak elements whom a revolutionary movement is, at first, sure to attract, together with such other elements, whose lack of rectitude can not sustain straight-forward tactics—all of these no doubt time has purged the party of.

Taller, broader, purer, consequently stronger and all the fitter for its mission, the Socialist Labor party of the land stands to-day the unquestioned and unquestionable champion of the Social Revolution.

## RAMRODDING FREEDOM.

Last week's battle of Manila is said to have cost the lives of over 5,000 Filipinos. These men had a notion that the country of their birth is their own. Arms in hand, they resisted the Spanish yoke, and succeeded to the extent that Spanish sovereignty over the whole Archipelago never was more than a nominal fact. A quarrel broke out between their tyrant and a foreign nation. They looked with joy at what seemed divine interposition, and aided the United States to drive out Spain.

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## POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

Freed from Spain, they imagined themselves freed from all foreign yoke. Not so. Our capitalist Government forthwith claimed possession by "conquest," and assumed the rôle of a dispenser of freedom in a style quite its own. "These Filipinos," our Government claimed, "do not know what freedom means; we must teach them." The teaching is now going on; the first lesson has been given. With the ramrod as instrument, "Freedom" is to be jammed down the throats of the insurgent patriots whom our expansionist capitalists insult with the name of "insurgents."

But the freedom-ramrodding process is not going on in the distant Philippines only. For every Filipino slaughtered beyond the Pacific a workingman is slaughtered, or the foundation is being laid for his being slaughtered right here in the United States. Over the prostrate bodies only of the "insurgent" Filipinos can our Government march to the establishment of its peculiar "freedom"-promoting social system in that Archipelago. The establishment of American factories in the Philippines is equivalent with a leveling process of wages here that will be given the name of "equalization" but which in fact spells MURDER.

Murder? Yes or no, as the case may be.

YES, if Socialist teachings do not gain upon Capitalist falsehood, and the masses of the workers are kept in the delusion that the Capitalist System is for all time;

NO, if Socialist teachings outstrip Capitalist falsehood, and the masses of the workers, awakened to the sense of the dignity and duty of their class, rise in their might and mop the floor with the capitalist class by flattening them out with the Socialist ballot.

## AN INCAUTIOUS FRIAR.

Worcester, Mass., papers contain reports of an address delivered by a certain Fr. Burke against Socialism. The reports all agree in certain passages, especially one, and, in that one the Rev. Burke shows decided evidence of im-  
prudence.

He is quoted as saying that one of the weaknesses of Socialism is that "it takes away all responsibility." It is not our purpose here to enter into a polemic with this friar, who evidently does not know, or, knowing, mistakes the facts, and prove, what has been amply proved before with mountainous facts that Socialism alone can save and restore the sense of responsibility which the capitalist system kills. Our purpose is an other.

How comes one who calls himself "Father Burke," "Rev. Burke," "Fr. Burke"—how comes one who speaks

from the standpoint of theological Christianity to commit the imprudence of inveighing against the destruction of "responsibility"? Had the "Father," "Rev." or "Fr." Burke tackled Socialism from any other point, however weak his attack must needs have been, it would not have partaken of the nature of a boomerang.

It is a boomerang for a "Father," "Rev." or "Fr." to denounce lack of "responsibility." By doing so he knocks from under him the favorite capitalist-theological prop. "Irresponsibility" is a basic principle of the teachings from such quarters. "Do not rebel against the station that God has put you in"; this motto or maxim, harped on in as many keys as the trained throats of these gentlemen have acquired, is heard all over the land from the capitalist pulpiteer. What does the motto mean but "irresponsibility"?

Here is a child, born in a garret, from sweat-shopped parents; it grows up in ignorance and in filth. Arrived at man's estate he looks around; sees a beautiful world and even his untrained senses scent the sublimities of intellectual existence. His aspirations to enjoy that life, that he vaguely describes, begin to unfold. But that life is not the life of "his station." If he submits and yields, gives up his aspirations, what has he yielded but to the force of "the station" he was placed in? If he don't, what does he do but to rebel against that station and seek to carve out a better one for himself, away from the one he was "placed in." At that moment the "Fathers," "Revs." and "Fr.s" step in; they check his gropings after a better "station." They lame his mind and will: "Do not rebel against the station that God has put you in!" is whispered, is thundered, is sung into his ears; in other words, they deprive or seek to deprive him of all sense of responsibility;—he is ordered to acquiesce.

"Irresponsibility"!—why, that is a cardinal doctrine of capitalist theology, or theological capitalism. Take that away and not a capitalist pulpit could stand!

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The English translation

# ALSO REJECTED, OF COURSE.

"New York Commercial" has of late uttered several editorials and communiques against the Trusts. It is interesting to note the waste of time and printer's ink in the confused and contradictory arguments of these advocates of Commercialism. On one point, however, they are agreed: they all agree to it, in their efforts to uphold a capitalist system under the war and wholesale murder and the exploitation of the workmen is fostered. On the other hand their arguments show that the capitalist class and their supporters have no idea how to save themselves from the impending industrial and political revolution. Much less do they know how to do something for the working-class. "Apropos" is the slogan—the working-class are we—our motto. And in this war we are opposed to Socialist arguments. They do not want to see any in the way, nevertheless the writer of the below communication sent to the "New York Commercial," a capitalist daily whose subscription rates are \$10 per annum, since 1895, page 110, column, \$40. P. E. R. B. M. (Boston), the editor of his M. G. was politically responsible, the editors of such a capitalist paper having to be very careful not to disturb the division of their subscribers and advertisers by announcing in a correspondence the near approach of the downfall of competitive, anarchistic capitalism.]

## THE COMBINATION ERA.

Editor "New York Commercial": Your reply to "An American Citizen" in reference to "The Combination Era" in your issue of Jan. 10—and the correspondence of Mr. Roswell A. Benetton on "Our Economic Condition" (Jan. 18)—and again your editorial "Trade, not Trust" (Jan. 19) in reply to the "Herald"—and "Money versus Tariff" by E. P. M. (Jan. 21)—are suggestive of a further discussion in that direction.

And here is what one of your readers in the slow city of "Brotherly Love" writes to say in connection with the other question and the constructive tendencies of capitalistic combinations.

Advanced thinkers everywhere earnestly consider the present state of affairs. We live in a period of economic, political and religious transition—at the dawn of a new epoch in universal history and civilization. The last years of a cruel competitive era are drawing nearer and nearer.

A momentous social, political and economical change will unavoidably take place in the near future, and the destiny of millions hang upon the deliberations, actions and experiments of those who take actual parts in the coming social transition.

Our destiny will depend upon whether the masses shall remain in ignorance and degradation, or whether they shall be aroused out of their mental and moral lethargy before it is too late to shake off their indifference and arrogance, that we will either go back towards barbarism, through economic and political despotism, or forward to a new harmonious, social order of justice with equal rights and equal duties, giving to all an equal opportunity to earn all they need and want for their liberty and happiness.

The most important question that confronts us is the labor problem in connection with "continuance of the consolidation of our productive and industrial interests." This problem of problems concerns every civilized human being at present and in the near future. It concerns you and the readers of your journal directly as Americans, if you do not want any longer to confirm the statement that "Americans lack sympathetic relation with humanity" and thus forget their personal and social obligations and duties to the young, the innocent, and the weak of the depressed toiling millions of slaves of necessity and wretchedness, of hunger and constrained idleness, of drunkenness and vice in our own country!

There is something very good in your advice when you say: "Study the schedules of steadily employed workmen" and to pin our "faith to that system which affords the largest number of men constant work at good wages." To my mind it would be better to work under a system which guarantees every useful workman, by brain or hand, the full reward of his labor. This is impossible under any of the present systems, as it requires the abolition of the wage system.

As consolidation of capital or trustification progresses, and as machinery and the industrial army of the unemployed increases, so the wages of the worker decreases. Our Bureau of Labor Statistics cannot conceal these, as much as they hide other facts. Progressive concentration is the law of capital, while progressive competition is the law of wages.

What is it that now "costs thousands upon thousands of American workmen's lives from starvation?"

It is NOT the "indulging in the little dance" of tariff or free trade, gold or silver, etc., agitation, but SOLELY our planless system of production. In other words, "OVERproduction," or rather producing OVER and ABOVE actual demand, while the workmen receive low wages and are therefore not able to buy the abundant goods which they actually need; which, on the other hand, means "UNDERconsumption" to consume, i. e. USE UNDER or LESS than what is produced and stocked up.

Again, because the workmen receive wages than they earn and is necessary to buy back the goods they produce.

Having advocated these views long since the panic of 1873, and having continued my studies and observations in that direction, I am to-day so much more convinced of their correctness. However, I admit that "artificial incitements are added to the real causes: money lends her lying tongue and mouths threats of impending war: a few bank failures add increased fear to the general distrust; financial conditions become shaky, cranks rally round the silver dollar, and lo! suddenly we are startled by a spectral confrontation of an immense crash."

The great "panic of 1873, the hard times and low prices, with the country filled with more tramps than ever before or since, with strikes, riots and bankruptcy on every hand," was NOT caused by the contraction of the volume of local tender money," as your correspondent E. P. M. states, but, as always, by the causes I explained here

construction in any department of the Government possible as long as such private ownership of monopolies exists.

You say "consolidation is a natural evolution in productive and distributive processes." Correct; and, therefore, the monopolies, neither the railroads nor the mines, nor the greater manufacturing industries of the country can go back to the basis of individual ownership. The industrial evolution has passed beyond that stage. All efforts of the class of small industrialists, producers, farmers, etc., to defend their own interests by trusts, co-operative organizations and other economic or political methods, against those of the large producing and distributing class, and against their trusts, rings, syndicates and combinations are bound to fail, as they cannot at all be effective under this capitalist rule of Government. It is the tendency of the present system with its technical revolution to expropriate the small producers, industrialists, shop keepers and small farmers, or at least their children are hopelessly doomed to be lowered into the proletariat, the wage working class; and, therefore, the first step out of this chaos is the organized emancipation of the masses in political class struggle.

THE ABOLITION OF WAGE SLAVERY by the working class through an independent political, moral and intellectual development to an INTERDEPENDENT, true and hopeful manhood. To my mind this can be accomplished, and then the introduction of a system of co-operative production for use against the present system for sale can be realized. In other words: "THE HOPE OF OUR COUNTRY" IS IN THE REORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRY, the nationalization, i. e., the socialization of the Trusts and the means of production, etc., under a properly chosen Central Directing Authority of the people. Then, and not until then, "a Government of the people, by the people and for the people" can be established.

## REMEDIUS ALBUS.

Philadelphia, 122 years and 204 days after the Declaration of Independence.

## LABOR NEWS COMPANY.

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Marx and Engels: The Communist Manifesto ..... 10  
From now on all orders for party emblem buttons and pins should be sent to the N. Y. Labor News Company. Gold tie pins cost \$1 each. All other pins and buttons 25 cents per dozen.

## BOSTON, MASS.

THE PEOPLE is for sale at the following places:

Geo. L. Leavitt, 182 Harrison Avenue, Cohens, 333 Washington street.  
John Braithwaite, 84 West Canton street.

## Labor Songs.

The attention of the readers of THE PEOPLE is called to the following labor songs:

- 1.—"The Workingmen's Marseillaise," arranged by H. Mohr.
- 2.—"Down with Slavery," words selected from Shelley; music by Platon Brounoff.
- 3.—"The Hand with the Hammer," by Peter E. Burrows; music by Platon Brounoff.
- 4.—"On the first of May," by Elizabeth Berber; music by Platon Brounoff.

Price, 10 cents per copy. Send your orders to:

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.  
64 East 4th street, New York City.

THE PEOPLE LIBRARY,  
100 William Street, New York,  
Published Monthly.  
Price, 10 cents per copy.  
Vol. I, No. 1, OCTOBER, 1898.

THE SOCIALIST ALMANAC

TREASURY OF FACTS.

HISTORY ECONOMICS  
SOCIOLOGY STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Retail Price, 50 Cents.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

## Texas Official Returns.

The vote of Texas for the head of the ticket (G. H. Royal, Governor) is 562. This is the first Socialist vote in the State.

Out of the 140 counties, Royal pools a vote in 17. These are:

| County              | 1892 | 1894 | 1896  | 1898  |
|---------------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Bell                | 6    | 273  | 841   | 841   |
| Bexar (San Antonio) | 273  | 37   | 175   | 175   |
| Dallas              | 37   | 1    | 1     | 1     |
| Elli                | 1    | 1    | 1     | 1     |
| Fayette             | 10   | 12   | 42    | 42    |
| Galveston           | 10   | 12   | 42    | 42    |
| Harrison            | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Harris              | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Lampasas            | 6    | 12   | 42    | 42    |
| McLennan            | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Mills               | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Potter              | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Ranney              | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Travis              | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Wade                | 12   | 24   | 77    | 77    |
| Totals              | 317  | 810  | 2,254 | 2,366 |

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

## Agitation in Hudson County, N. Y.

To THE PEOPLE.—For the sake of comrades in other fields it is necessary to give an account of ourselves. Without doubt, every one of us are going to knock out every county in New Jersey, unless those counties seeing this, determine to strain every nerve to beat us. Well, we are ready for this friendly strife. In Jersey City we draw large crowds of men and women to our Sunday evening meetings at Prairie Central Hall. Never before were meetings of this size well attended. Sunday Jan. 21, we had a full house at B. Faist's Hall, Weehawken. This is the first meeting ever held there, and many desired to join and organize a Branch on the spot, but we thought it better to hand them good literature and hold another meeting there Saturday, Feb. 4, when they would be better informed. We also arranged to lecture every Sunday evening at Humboldt Hall, on Newark avenue, near Jersey avenue, with good speakers. In the rest of the county we shall organize new Branches. Average one-half dozen new subscribers at every meeting.

At a meeting in Weehawken the following Comrades were appointed to make arrangements for halls, speakers and printing: for West Hoboken Comrades Uter and Kempf; for Union Hill, Comrades Recholtz and Schroll; for West New York Comrades Betsch and Edelman.

The press treats us with unusual consideration. This year we have

challenged their political Gods so publicly and persistently that a feeling of consternation has seized them. Our steadily increasing votes silence their ridicule and challenges their respect.

All sympathizers with our grand movement are requested to send their names and addresses to the undersigned, who will be most happy to call a meeting near their place of residence.

FRED'K KRAFT, Organiser,  
25 Palisade avenue.

Jersey City, Feb. 3.

## Good Signs in Worcester, Mass.

To THE PEOPLE.—If being attacked by our opponents is a sign that we are making progress, then we are getting along in great shape. This morning (Sunday) there was a savage attack on Socialism in the Worcester "Telegraph"; this afternoon an independent political club was formed by the fakirs to oppose Socialism; and to-night a most foul attack on Socialism by Father Burke, a Catholic priest, a lecture delivered on Socialism before a large audience. We are evidently stirring up the apathies in great shape. More anon.

Worcester, Mass., Feb. 5.

## On to the Fray Against the Fakirs!

To THE PEOPLE.—After reading Comrade Hickey's magnificent article, the condition of the miners and his call to organize the S. T. & L. A. etc., the undersigned call to me, and to the fakirs, to consider it the time for a coalition. Hickey speaks of Hanna and his crowd; what they are hand in glove with the fakirs and the pure and simple unions, etc. Now suppose the men were organized into the S. T. & L. A. would it not be natural for the mine owners to absolutely refuse to have any miners do with the miners what the fakirs do with the miners? This will of course drive the miners into a club to smash the Alliance. This will of course drive the miners to the pools with the S. L. P. hammer. But if this time comes, then the vote will be taken from them? This will lead to violence. I have a great deal of faith in the S. T. & L. A. and its power, but there are times, such as this case, when I do not see one way out.

The capitalist class holds absolute economic power therefore, it is only natural that they will fight the Alliance to the finish. How will the S. T. & L. A. deal with this difficulty?

LOUIS DWORSHACK.

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 2.

## [There is no such danger, and safety lies in the very economic laws obedient to which the Hanus act. If they were to give real good wages to their employees then these could be turned into a body guard for the capitalist. But they don't, and, what is more, they can't: big toad in the puddle though Hanna is, there are bigger ones, and, above the bigger ones, is the "high finance" sub-class of capitalists. These are all inevitable wheels in the mechanism of capitalist society; and, from above, the wheels of the capitalist mechanism will grind down; but from below the class-conscious economic organization of the workers (the Alliance), backed by the swelling columns of the class-conscious political movement (the S. L. P.) will compel concessions from the capitalists like tubs to the whale. But the class-conscious proletariat in motion is not to be pacified; more and more tubs will follow; the political victories will increase, and, backed by them, the economic power of the workers will become more and more potent. Thus matters will go along—until something rips, and victory is won. Never fear.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

It will happen this way. What with the growth of the S. L. P. and of the Alliance, the fakirs will lose their market price, and then there will begin to happen something akin to what happens when a gale blows into the mouth of a river and dams it back. From above, the wheels of the capitalist mechanism will grind down; but from below the class-conscious economic organization of the workers (the Alliance), backed by the swelling columns of the class-conscious political movement (the S. L. P.) will compel concessions from the capitalists like tubs to the whale. But the class-conscious proletariat in motion is not to be pacified; more and more tubs will follow; the political victories will increase, and, backed by them, the economic power of the workers will become more and more potent. Thus matters will go along—until something rips, and victory is won. Never fear.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

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It will happen

## A STRING OF FISH.

(Continued from page 1.)

'Brakeman John Morrow killed at Pittsburgh.'

'Ford, of Allegheny, introduced a bill to give water companies right of eminent domain.'

'Brewers of Pittsburgh combine with a \$13,000,000 capital.'

'Grocery clerk or driver advertises for work at \$1 a month and board.'

THURSDAY.—'Brakeman J. D. Morton killed wife and family.'

'Westinghouse shipped gas engines to London; a great increase in demand for them; saves labor and fuel.'

'400 silk mill employees at Sunbury walked out for an advance in wages.'

'Public action was taken at Beaver Falls about the destitute condition of the employees of the American Steel and Wire Co., which has been shut down since July.'

'The Pen Myr mines at Nivestown gave their men 22½ cents per ton for working after the plunger machines and ended the strike.'

'The new President of the U. M. W. was among the operators and miners well pleased, especially with the result of the conference. He said that if the miners would continue to elect representatives who were men of sense there should be no more trouble between the miner and operator.'

'A bill introduced by McCandless, Allegheny, for dues of first-class appropriate \$500 per year to maintain National Guard.'

FRIDAY.—'Senator Wenck, of Montgomery, presented a bill to give easement to trolley companies.'

'The State thanks Helen Gould.'

'The fight between the Lake Erie and the West Side Belt Line over a change in grade throws 400 miners out of work at Banksville, Pittsburgh.'

'G. H. Rogers has been appointed receiver for the Juniata Co-operative Association, Blair Co., a railway employee venture.'

'Engineer Jas. McMechan, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was killed.'

'A combination among manufacturers of tin plate bars and tin plate machinery has been announced.'

'The big meat firms of the West are doing a big business not only in Pittsburgh but in other parts of the country and are making pretty formidable competition for our local dealers, and have added butter and eggs to meats.'

'The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., with works in Pennsylvania, Indiana and Missouri, refuses to treat with its erstwhile organized labor. The C. L. U. threatens a national boycott on its product if it does not recognize the Union.'

'Miner Wm. Ross ground to death under coal car at Greensburg.'

'Joseph Carr, a laborer, aged 22, has taken great interest in politics and cut his throat with a razor, which deed was laid to the charge of Saturday's primaries which unhinged his mind.'

'Shaker Society, like the Economites, dying out.'

'Five lunatics at large were taken in charge at Altoona in one day and a number of others are reported.'

SATURDAY.—'M. M. Garland, Surveyor of Customs of Western Pennsylvania, went to Washington as the representative of the A. F. of L. to look after the eight-hour law.'

'At Irwin, Miner John Eckburg was crushed by slate, as was Wm. Murtland at Suterville.'

It has all been seen before, but is now put together as a reminder of the process that grinds on day and night. Each item a fit subject for a study, and all point to the one goal: Capitalist politics and their Fakir allies; capitalist corruption, and its conventional whitewash; capitalist gains and laborers losses as well as their misery of which but a little was mentioned, leaving the bulk of what was in print out to save bulk. All make a pretty string, indeed; and this is Pennsylvania only; and "there are as big fish in the sea as those which were caught."

O. N. E. LACKALL,  
Polk, Pa.

## OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,  
Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 183 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Executive Committee, Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde street, Montreal.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 147 East 23rd street, New York City. (The party's literary agency.)

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Meeting of Feb. 7, with P. Murphy in the chair. Absent: Kinney, Wherry and Brown. Official report of the work ending Feb. 4, showed receipts, \$277.95; expenditures, \$105.00. In order to meet a note due on the Almanac, a loan of \$200 was raised which loan is included in this week's receipts. Section Elizabeth requests publication of the party constitution in Lithuanian. Resolved that the N. E. C. is in no position to comply with the request, there being other organizations among whom we have been unable to satisfy.

The Board of Appeals reported several decisions as follows:

1) Appeal of L. Eckstein against action of Section New York, demanding that he retract statements made by him regarding Comrade I. Weisberger. After careful consideration of the case, as submitted by Eckstein and organizer Abelson of Section New York, the Board decided not to sustain the appeal.

2) Appeal of Comrades David Goldstein, Maria Moore Avery and others against Section Worcester, for neglect to proceed with charges against Comrade Charles K. Hardin. The Board came to the conclusion that this matter does not come within its jurisdiction and that the secretary notify the comrades to this effect.

3) Appeal of W. S. Tuerker against action of Section Pittsburg, expelling him for joining another party organization. The appellant admits having joined a club, but with the intention of advancing our party propaganda. The Board decided not to sustain the appeal.

4) Appeal from Comrades F. Leib and G. Dressler, against action of 24th and 35th Assembly District, New York, censoring them for their attitude in matters foreign to our party propaganda. The appellants claim that there was no justification for such censure on the part of the Assembly Districts and requests that the vote be rescinded. After considering the question as submitted, the Board came to the conclusion that the matter does not come within its jurisdiction, as the members were not deprived of any right in the party organization.

Communication from Comrade W. J. Eberle, submitting resolutions adopted by Section Pittsburg against action of State

Committee, was received and filed, the question having been decided at a former meeting of the Board.

A communication from San Francisco, asking an opinion of the N. E. C. on a clause of their by-laws, was ordered answered by the secretary.

Amendments to the constitution offered by Section Providence and Comrade T. C. Brophy, of Boston, were turned over to a special committee with orders to report at next meeting.

Charters were granted to new Sections at: Spokane, Wash., and Eckert, Colo.

The secretary reported that the first supplement to the Almanac is selling very rapidly and that, if the sale continues as it started, a second edition may be needed.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secretary.

## Colorado.

DENVER.—On the 29th Section Denver assembled in convention and nominated the following candidates for city offices at the coming election in April:

For Mayor, N. L. Gries; for Treasurer, Chas. F. Miller; for Auditor, Christian Miller; for City Clerk, George Bauer; for City Engineer, Harry Parkin; for City Attorney, Lame L. French; Board of Supervisors, A. E. Heron, W. W. Necker; for Supervisors, A. E. Seiner, John Wartensell, Julius Leavitt and Clayton Thomas.

George Bauer, N. L. Gries, and A. Lampre were elected a special committee to write and use its influence with the Legislative Committee on Elections to reward certain bills which had been introduced according to the election laws. Last fall there was a great deal of litigation over bills and party names and under pretext of remodelling this evil all kinds of vicious bills are introduced, one of which seems to aim at the disfranchisement of all minority parties. It provides that two persons of the total vote cast at the last general election be allowed to vote to file a ticket by petition, and requires 20 per cent. of the total vote to secure recognition as a legal political party. While it is not very probable that this measure will pass, it will not do to be too cocky here, as strange things sometimes happen.

The nomination of a township ticket was postponed until Sunday, Feb. 5.

On Sunday, Jan. 13, Comrade Hayes, of Cleveland, addressed a good-sized audience on "Imperialism"; but the largest and most enthusiastic meeting ever held on a Sunday under the auspices of Section Columbus was one held on Jan. 22.

The hall was packed to the doors, and not a single person left until Comrade Hickey got through.

Looking back to the summer of 1896, when a few "Utopians" organized Section Canton, anyone must admit that the Socialist movement has made surprising progress in the home "Progressive Hill," and the way our Section is gaining in membership and clearness is already worrying the capitalist politicians of all shades.

## ALF. LAMPE, Organizer.

## Illinois.

CHICAGO.—The 24th Ward Branch of the S. L. P. has opened a reading and lecture room at 173 Wells street. The reading room is open daily from 12 o'clock noon, until 10 p. m.

We have 50 books, including Marx's "Capital," Bak's "Arbeiterzeitung," French Revolutionary, "Principles of Socialism," "Outspoken Essays," Hobson's "Evolution of Modern Capitalism," and many of the other books of the most scientific sort. And, besides, all of the pamphlets issued by the party.

The following papers are on file: THE PEOPLE, "Tocsin," "Class Struggle," "Vorwärts," and "Berlin Vorwärts," the "Red Republic," the London "Justice," the "Red Republic," the London "Justice," and "Red Republic."

We hold two public meetings per week with party lectures. Generally with audiences of from 60 to 100.

All comrades and strangers are asked to call.

## THE 24TH WARD, S. L. P.

## Massachusetts.

The articles submitted by Medford, Haverhill and Stoneham for a referendum vote concern a matter of the utmost importance to the State and to the movement in general. The S. C. C. has also put into operation a plan to secure a majority for the measure that of placing an organizer permanently in the field. There is no need to give arguments in favor of such a move; its necessity has been apparent for some time. The plan of the S. C. C. as in the case with most hurried moves, is defective.

The plan now being voted upon is the outcome of a careful consideration of the difficulties to be met in the work, and the number of men who are willing to give this money. It will be a long hard effort, and will tax the best energies of the State for a while. As the work becomes productive, whatever outlay may be made, will more than be restored. The cost stamp books, while showing most undeniably work, we can depend upon chance enemies to carry on such important work. We must know whether the money is sure or not. We cannot know from these stamp books.

With the other plan in operation, we can at least estimate the returns somewhat correctly. We can without a doubt obtain with less work two hundred men who will contribute ten dollars a week, than we can with 500 stamps. The work involved in either plan is not small, and the only question to decide is which will give us the larger returns.

It is not very good reasoning to believe that more money can be obtained by hazard, than can be obtained from a society organized for the purpose of contributing. We can, however, do this, if it is done foolishly to give ten, if there is any way of finding out what the probable amount collected in a week will be, there is no reason why we should not obtain that knowledge. We cannot send a man on the road and trust to luck to pay him. The S. C. C. must know how far their work can be carried and how much it will cost to carry on in other comes. Most people when you attempt to sell them a stamp will laugh at the idea, and if they buy at all they will only give a cent. We cannot spend whole days working for a cent here and there. The energy required would be criminally wasted in the attempt to raise in this way any sum such as we shall need.

We have a plan which is better matured, better adapted to our purpose, capable of giving us a larger income, surer in its returns and capable of showing what we may expect to receive.

The stamp plan furthermore can give us very little in Boston, as that city is already covered by the stamp of the City Committee. Two or three of the drawing rooms of the same people would soon cover both useless.

The fact that the S. C. C. has dumped the stamp books on the Sections does by no means settle the financial end of the affair. All returns from the very nature of the plan must be uncertain, and when we have a man on the road, his needs will be quite the reverse of uncertain. We must proceed intelligently and systematically as to run into a thing and trust to luck, and the kindness of the happy possessors of odd pennies to pull us out.

We are not running a church fair, and the methods of such edifying profitable shows will be useless in our case. The very strongest idea about these books has been overruled. We can use them as a means to get the Sections to take the matter in hand as they should, each comrade could now buy from twenty-five stamps upward, and a good sum would be the result.

I am by no means opposed to the continuation of the stamp books in the field, in the 24th Ward and elsewhere, but they are too uncertain, and too rudimentary to be depended on. Chameleons may feed on air and light, but we cannot trust organizers to do good work on such a diet. The books will bring in something—we know not how much, and we have no means of finding out. The plan now before the State will bring in some money, and we can tell approximately from what we can see. For this reason, the organization should be made the thing of most importance, and the stamp books what they are by nature—mere accessories.

## FRANK MacDONALD, Stoneham, Mass.

REVERE.—We are proud indeed to report that Section Revere is the first to take advantage of our 8 per cent. vote in this State by holding a caucus last night in the Town Hall under capitalist laws, and nominated the following class-conscious candidates to be voted for at the March election in this town:

Selectmen: Pres. 1. Byrons Eford; Pres. 2. Samuel Mahony; Pres. 3. H. Warren Green; At Large, Otto Sullivan. Town Treasurer: James Langan; Assessor: Patrick Mitchell; School Committee: Mrs. Margaret Eford; Auditor: John Irving; Board of Education: Pres. 1. John H. Hearn; Sewer Commissioner: John Mitchell; Trustee of the Public Library: Hyman Richman.

The caucus was organized by Comrade Eford, with Comrade A. Hearn as chairman and Comrade J. Twomey as secretary. REVERE, S. L. P.

CAMBRIDGE.—Section Cambridge, Mass., held a meeting Jan. 28, and voted to hold a public meeting on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2 p. m. in the Temple of Honor, Hall 501 Massachusetts avenue. All readers of THE PEOPLE should attend and also join and help to build up the Section. There is no

reason why we should not have a strong Section in Cambridge as it is a great factory town. At the same meeting was elected J. Leyin as Literary Agent.

New York.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Students' League will hold an entertainment on Saturday, Feb. 11, at the rooms of the Young Men's Socialist Educational Club, 96 Avenue C, at which Mr. Lucien Sanial will deliver an address. Students in the various universities are especially invited to attend, as a matter of great importance to students is to be the topic of Mr. Sanial's address.

Ohio.

CINCINNATI.—On the 28th instant, Section Cincinnati held a convention and nominated candidates for the April election.

There are but three offices to fill.

The nominees are: Charles D. Linsley, for Superior Court Judge; Frederick Pandorf and Charles Billings, for Members of the Board of City Affairs.

We have been gaining ground rapidly within the last few weeks, and, with the aid of Comrade Hickey, we expect a largely increased vote this spring.

CANTON.—Section Canton, S. L. P., held a well-attended meeting on Sunday, afternoon, Jan. 29, and nominated the following ticket for the municipal election on April 2: For Mayor, Henry P. Hull; Water Works Trustee, Peter Marti; Street Commissioner, J. C. Dager; Marshal, J. F. Flynn; School Board, Henry O. Bucklin; Mathias Marg and Chas. Pferrman; for Council, 4th Ward, Chester C. Hickey; 5th Ward, J. P. Muzanez; 6th Ward, John H. T. Jurgens.

The nomination of a township ticket was postponed until Sunday, Feb. 5.

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